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Viewpoint



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U.S. Army Field Station Misawa is featured this month in our Special Section. Field Station Misawa is located in a land that is known for its beauty and enchantment. Come with us on our journey to Japan to visit the Field Station and to learn about the habits and customs of the Japanese people.

COMING SOON: In the near future an updating of the current mailing list of the *INSCOM Journal* will take place. On receiving the update card, make necessary changes in your address or in the number of copies that you receive. Return the card to this office (INSCOM, ATTN: IAPA, Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, Va. 22212-5000) as quickly as possible so that you will continue to receive the *INSCOM Journal*. Unless the card is returned, your name and address will be deleted from the mailing list. Watch this space in the future for information on the mailing list update.

"It must be the water ..."

"TURKEY?! Man, you must have made somebody *really* mad!"

"What's a 'Sinop'?"

"Whatever you do, don't drink the water!"

Confronted with the above comments, any (arguably) sane JAG officer would probably consider resignation, desertion, and suicide—in that order—before facing the reality of assignment to the "outpost of freedom" known as Diogenes Station. But duty (and the Judge Advocate General) calls. Your branch, as usual, is supportive, even encouraging: "You'll love it. It's a chance to really excel, to test the limits of your ability, show your stuff. We wouldn't send you if we didn't have every confidence in you." Everything but the old "it builds character" line. Bite the bullet, guy. Drive on!

So, you're Sinop bound. What's first? Let's see if we can find the place on the map. It can't be *that* remote ... and two days later, a map showing Sinop is found. "Remote" takes on new meaning. Three hundred kilometers south of Yalta, huh? But isn't Yalta in ... Yes, it is. Well, I always wanted to be in a position to affect East-West relations ...

And so, armed with reassurances from your predecessors, and every law book you can carry, you board your plane at JFK. Two days later you land in Sinop—the 20th century's answer to Judge Roy Bean, the Law West of the Pecos.

by Capt. David L. Fowler

The Sinop Command Judge Advocate is probably one of the most unique and rewarding assignments available to a young Army lawyer today. As the only attorney on "The Hill," the "Judge" at Diogenes Station must wear many hats. In fact, he performs nearly all the functions provided by a fully-staffed SJA Office at division or installation level, plus a few relatively unique functions as well.

The Judge's clientele includes both Army and Navy personnel, as well as civilians. For a population approaching 800, the Sinop Judge is *the* legal authority. For these people, he is the sole source of legal advice for wills, powers of attorney, leases, repossessions, separation agreements, taxes, and all the other personal legal issues that seem to constantly assault people assigned overseas. For those unfortunate individuals facing civilian court proceedings stateside, the Judge often appears shrouded in mystery and ritual to mumble phrases like "Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act"—thereby "miraculously" curing the problem. Is the Sinop Judge busy? Yes—to the tune of about 40 clients a month who seek his assistance in these areas.

But legal assistance, however important, is only one-sixth of his responsibilities. Legal assistance and claims are

the areas in which service members always picture the JAG Office. These are the only areas in which they see the Judge on a personal basis and in a daily fashion. What they don't see is the other two-thirds of his job. This less visible portion centers about his role as the commander's advisor, and is actually his primary responsibility. The Judge is a member of the Commander's Personal and Special Staffs, which means he is professionally obligated to give frank, honest, often controversial, advice in any and all areas influenced or controlled by the commander. Although the boundaries often blur, other areas of the Judge's responsibility are normally described as Military Justice, Administrative Law, and International Law. None of these areas of responsibilities is unique to Sinop or its Judge. What is unique are the effects of Sinop's location, its lines of authority and how the judge must react to the two.

Diogenes Station's major command is, of course, INSCOM. However, it has various obligations to three other HQ's: SETAF (its GCMCA), JUSMMAT/TUSLOG (the HQ responsible for direct coordination with the national authorities of the Republic of Turkey), and, occasionally, LAND-SOUTHEAST (our NATO HQ in Turkey).

If you only consider the monthly reports required by

the Judge, you can "clearly see the waters becoming muddied." In practice, the flow of authority, responsibility, and obligation is not quite as confusing as it first appears and doesn't cause too many problems by the time a new Judge has settled in comfortably. The fact that Diogenes Station is in Turkey, however, does create a few unique considerations. In the area of Military Justice, the Judge may be called upon to advise three commanders other than the Field Station Commander; two being Army, the other Navy. People (including soldiers and sailors) will always remain the same, it seems. A certain percentage will always stray beyond the bounds of legally accepted behavior. Once caught, they will be punished.

However, unlike in Germany, the Commander's legal advisor in Turkey can never say, in total confidence, *who* will punish the offender. This is because, for various reasons, the Turkish government is far more likely to retain jurisdiction over offenders of its laws than is the German government. Naturally, this causes a considerable level of concern on the part of U.S. commanders—and therefore an equal (if not greater) degree on the part of their Judge. It demands that the Judge establish a personal working relationship with the area Prosecutors and Judge . . . just in case. It also means he must maintain more than cordial relations with the Installation Commander—who is Turkish, not American. Ultimately, it means that an error on his part in gauging the potential political implications of an incident involving Americans, military or civilian, may quickly be the focus of international concern.

Issues in the Administrative

Law area are similarly affected by Sinop's location. Administrative separations and discharges are affected by the desire to maintain jurisdiction over U.S. personnel, while simultaneously respecting host-nation sensitivities. Installation activities must constantly be reviewed to ensure that the desires of the commander, undertaken in the interest of morale and/or discipline, are not misinterpreted by Turkish authorities as beyond his authority. Likewise, the Judge must ensure that (seemingly) innocent acts by elements of the command do not violate either the letter or the spirit of international agreements. Once again, a mistake by the judge in this area will gain undesirable attention for his "boss"!

Several of the other areas of concern have already been discussed, others cannot be. In the area of International Law the Judge is required, on a daily basis, to advise the commander. It *can* be said, however, that this area can be the source of many sleepless nights for all concerned. Can the commander do "X" under international agreements? Is it politically *wise* to do so? Will it

require the approval of either government, both, or neither? If this sounds to you like "high-risk" decision-making, you're hearing the right song. And the commander expects his judge to help conduct the symphony.

Is it fun being the Sinop Judge? Absolutely. The Judge here is undeniably an influential part of the command structure. His advice is constantly sought by everyone, in all areas. And believe it or not . . . almost always listened to. A dream-come-true for a JAG officer! Is the Judge busy? Absolutely.

Eleven-to-twelve-hour days are not unusual. Fourteen-hour-days are not rare. Three-hundred phone calls are expected; three-hundred-thirty decisions are anticipated. After all, you're "all they've got." You're the Judge. And nobody said Judge Roy Bean took holidays off.

Well, we've been here now for six long, long months. Six months without familiar faces and close friends! Six months without live football games! Six months without your girl, and six more months to go! So, how come you feel so good! It must be the water . . . !





Trip to the Holy Land

Experience of a lifetime

At Field Station Berlin the Chaplain led a group of 41 people from the Berlin-American community on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Both military and civilian personnel from the field station participated in the experience of a lifetime.

The group gathered at Tegel Airport on the morning of February 16, 1984 for the short flight to Frankfurt where we transferred to a wide-body El-Al for a non-stop flight to Tel Aviv. Security procedures for Israel-bound planes are quite impressive, particularly at the largest airport in Europe. Once we got through them, and on our way, the trip was most enjoyable. Our pilot graciously pointed out in Ger-

by Chaplain (Maj.) John Banks

man, English, and Hebrew the points of interest as we flew over them.

We landed in Tel Aviv in the early evening and, after getting settled in our hotel overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, we found some dinner to help us make it through the night.

Friday morning we were up and on our bus by 7:30. We had been well fortified for the day by a bountiful Israeli breakfast which consisted of many types of bread, meat, cheese, and fruit. You have never truly eaten until you have had such an Israeli break-

fast. This was to be an every-morning experience throughout our time in Israel.

For our first stop that day, we went up the coast to the ruins of Caesaria Maritimus, an old Roman port. Then we visited the modern port city of Haifa, straddling Mount Carmel, and saw a breathtaking panoramic view from which we could see all the way to Lebanon, further north. Akko, or Acre, a town that has had many names, served as a principal city during the Crusades. We visited the ancient fortress and museum there before continuing our journey northeastward toward the Golan Heights and Northern Galilee.

Hogoshrin Kibbutz was our

overnight stop. We learned something of what life is like for Kibbutz dwellers, particularly those who live near the Syrian border. Our continuing travels took us to Banias, at the headwaters of the Jordan River, past several Druse towns and villages and into a part of occupied Syria. There we paused for a brief chat with two members of the United Nation's Observer Team, a Canadian and an Austrian.

We stopped at Tel Hazor, where archaeologists have dug back through at least 20 civilizations in that one location. This amazing story has been captured in John Mitchner's novel, *The Source*, an excellent book to read in connection with such a tour. The Sea of Galilee came into breathtaking view as we rounded a turn along the hillside where Christ gave his sermon on the mount. A lovely Chapel of the Beatitudes now marks that site and provided us with an ideal location for one of our devotional reflections along the way.

Further stops at the ruins of Capernaum, Tiberias by the Sea for lunch, the baptismal site of the Jordan River, and Megiddo excavations brought us at last to the Holy City itself, Jerusalem.

Sunday morning found us on top of the Mount of Olives, looking down on an awe-inspiring view of the city. We walked along the road very likely taken by travelers for centuries, including Jesus and his disciples. We paused in the Garden of Gethsemane and visited the Church of All Nations or Church of the Agony, where an altar stands over the rock believed by some to be the spot where Jesus knelt in prayer. We entered the old city by a southern gate and walked along the Cardo, a recently ex-

cavated 'expressway' from the Byzantine period. It probably ran from Damascus Gate to the southern end of the city.

Our group divided for worship services, with Catholics going to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Protestants to the Scottish Presbyterian Church.

Yad Vashim, the Museum of the Holocaust, vividly captured our attention next, leaving an indelible impression on everyone. We toured the scale model of first century Jerusalem, comparing it to what we were seeing in the present, then on to the Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book, where we spent the rest of our day.

Early the next morning we went to the Garden Tomb and there shared in a Communion Service led by one of the chaplains in our group. This proved to be an experience of deep spiritual significance which remained with us throughout the week. We entered the Old City by the Dung Gate and visited the Western, or Wailing Wall, holiest spot to the world's Jews, as it is all that remains of the former temple's foundations. We toured El Aksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock on Temple Mount, a place of special significance to Moslems, Christians and Jews.

Exiting by the Lion's Gate we walked to the Pool of Bethesda and viewed the ruins of several structures built to mark that holy spot of Christ's healing ministry. Then we began our walk along the Via Dolorosa, or Path of Sorrows, the way Christ went from judgement to death. The road passes through a number of Arab shops and it is difficult to concentrate on the reality of his day in the midst of the noise and clamor of our own. The afternoon included a visit

to the Upper Room and the Tomb of David and then to Bethlehem for a view of the Church of the Nativity and a walk through Shepherd's Field.

The last day of our "guided tour" in Israel took us along the road which goes *down* from Jerusalem to Jericho; that is, from 3600 feet above sea level to about 1300 feet below at the Dead Sea—quite a steep hill to say the least. We were the first tour group on top of Masada, the mountain fortress where Jewish patriots held off the Roman legions for three years and finally chose to die by their own hand in freedom rather than live as slaves. We explored that fascinating site for several hours before descending and making our way to the Dead Sea shore for a unique floating-on-the-water experience, one not soon to be forgotten.

A brief stop at Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the 1940's, and a stop at the present day village of Jericho completed our trip for the day and we returned to Jerusalem for a night of well earned rest.

A final day gave everyone free time to go back for a longer look at sites seen previously, visit other places or go shopping. This was the perfect conclusion to a delightful week. We had seen much of what there is to be seen in Israel, yet we had only skimmed the surface. The day of our departure came at last and we all went in three different directions: the largest group, 29, flew back to Berlin, while nine went on to Egypt to see Cairo and Luxor, with four going to Eilat and Mt. Sinai. For everyone it was truly an experience of a lifetime. It is one the Berlin community plans to do again and again.



Forty years ago—Near the end of World War II, Maj. James D. Fowler (L) and Capt. Thomas H. Wright of the 366th Infantry post outside regimental headquarters in Viareggio, Italy.



The year 1984—Capt. David L. Fowler (L) and Capt. Thomas H. Wright Jr. at FS Sinop in Turkey. Fowler is Staff Judge Advocate and Wright is Commander of Headquarters Company.

Like fathers, like sons

During the waning days of World War II, two U.S. officers from the 366th Infantry posed for a snapshot outside their regimental headquarters at Viareggio, Italy.

Maj. James D. Fowler and Capt. Thomas H. Wright were the S-3 and Assistant S-3 of the all-black regiment, assigned to the 92d Division. The photo was to be a memento of their service together; the year was 1944.

Forty years later, their sons—by now also Army officers—found themselves serving side by side. Capt. David L. Fowler and Capt.

by Ron Kuhne

Thomas H. Wright Jr. are stationed at U.S. Army Field Station Sinop, on the northernmost point of Turkey's Black Sea coast.

Fowler is the INSCOM unit's Staff Judge Advocate; Wright is Headquarters Company Commander.

Both were born in 1952 and both started their association with the Army in 1970—Fowler as a West Point cadet and Wright as an enlisted man. They met the following year, when Fowler was an upper classman at the USMA,

while Wright was a plebe.

Fowler graduated from West Point in 1974 and received his law degree from Georgetown University in 1981. Wright was commissioned in 1975 through the ROTC program at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont.

They were reunited in mid-1984 when both were assigned to USAFS Sinop.

The senior Wright retired in 1962 as a lieutenant colonel and now resides in Melrose, Mass.; the elder Fowler retired five years later as a colonel and now lives in Atlanta. Both still correspond occasionally.

Rites of Passage

by Capt. Mary Brennan

How do you instill a sense of pride in new unit members and help them feel that they belong? The answer is to challenge those soldiers to learn more about their new unit, and to motivate them to demonstrate individual potential early in their new assignments.

The 470th MI Group has developed a program called *Rites of Passage* to promote a sense of cohesion and esprit-de-corps. Under the concept of this program, new members of the Group must earn the right to wear the unit crest.

To qualify, they must pass a written test which includes the description and symbolism of the INSCOM Patch and the 470th Insignia. They have to know the unit's history, and the Group's mission and objectives, as well as INSCOM's goal.

Displaying talent as a bookworm is not enough for soldiers of the 470th MI Group. New members must also demonstrate physical prowess by meeting weight standards in accordance with AR 600-9, passing the Physical Readiness Test, and meeting the Group physical training standards.

By now one would believe the soldiers are ready for the

unit crest, but wait . . . brain and brawn are not sufficient. Before acceptance into the elite membership of the 470th MI Group professionals, they must demonstrate technical proficiency and disciplined, positive attitude by winning a satisfactory preliminary assessment from supervisors. By meeting all of the requirements, they will be awarded the crest of the 470th MI Group by its Commander or by the Commander of Field Station Panama. The award will be presented before a formation of unit members.

This is but the initial phase of the Rites of Passage program. Soldiers, wearing the unit crest are expected to uphold the standards of the 470th MI Group. Following the first 60 days of the members' assignment up to six months before DEROs, they must obtain a passing SQT score, fire at marksman level or higher with their weapons, complete the Primary Leadership Devel-

opment Course, successfully complete the Common Task Test, and lead the 470th MI Group in physical training at two different times. Assuming satisfactory completion of these requirements, soldiers are awarded the unit cap, T-shirt, and a certificate. New members will also be given a departure award and distinctive unit photo. Why? When first informed about the Rites of Passage, many new unit members did not think too seriously about the program.

The results of the program, however, show that novices attained a more rapid and thorough understanding of the organization. In turn, this aided their comprehension of their own mission and importance. It also reinforced the fact that individual accomplishment is part of unit accomplishment. When soldiers realize the value of their personal contributions, they feel that they really belong, and that is the goal of the Rites of Passage.



At a Rites of Passage Ceremony, 1st Lt. David Sizemore is presented the unit crest by Col. Michael Pheneger (back to camera), Commander of the 470th MIGP. Holding the tray is Sp5 Luis Santiago; Capt. Robert Dunn is in center. (U.S. Army photo)

Soldiers who excel

by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht

Outstanding soldiers at Field Station Kunia have an official title, thanks to the command sergeant major of the unit.

Soldiers who are outstanding achievers are "Soldiers of Excellence," according to CSM Odell Williams.

"Kunia's goal is to become INSCOM's model for excellence. I believe that soldiers who achieve outstanding results in different levels of soldier competition have demonstrated that quality of excellence," Williams explained.

The term prompts different reactions from the soldiers who bear the label.

"When I hear 'Soldiers of Excellence,' I think of the Old Guard and my drill sergeant and I don't think that is what 'Soldiers of Excellence' is all about. Soldiers of Excellence are soldiers that sacrifice themselves to give to the Army. I sacrificed of myself, my time and my effort to make Soldier of the Year," Sp4 Debra Larson, Field Station and INSCOM Pacific Soldier of the Year, said.

"I don't think I'm any different from my peers. I get up in the morning, put my boots on, and come to work just like everybody else. I'm trying for promotion just like everyone else, too," she added.

Despite her humility, Larson's triumphs before the Soldier of the Year boards reflect

the drive and determination that qualifies her as a field station Soldier of Excellence, according to Williams.

"She wanted to win. She wanted to be the best soldier in her company, the best soldier in the battalion, and the best soldier in the command," he said.

"I have always felt that if I do my best, then I am satisfied. I never went into a board saying I have to win this board. I go in as prepared as I can be, and I give it the best shot I can. As long as I do that, I feel I have nothing to be ashamed of. And sometimes your best makes you a winner, and sometimes it doesn't," Larson said.

Her peers and supervisors have reacted favorably to her recent successes, she states.

"Sometimes people walk up to me and ask me off the wall questions about the military that they think I should know," she said.

Another Soldier of Excellence experiences the same fate.

"Sometimes I will overhear an argument going on about uniforms or regulations or something like that and I will hear 'let's go ask McLean,'" Sp5 Timothy McLean said. McLean won his title by finishing second at the 25th Infantry Division NCO Academy at Schofield Barracks and earning

the title of distinguished honor graduate. He credits a "very competitive nature" for his accomplishments.

"If there is an inspection, I don't want to do just enough to get by. I want to do enough to be noticed and do better than the next person," he said.

When McLean hears 'Soldier of Excellence,' he thinks of his father, retired Sergeant Major Allen C. McLean.

"My father is a veteran of three wars and was highly decorated," he said. "To me, I've been in the Army 22 years. My background makes me want to succeed and makes it easy to succeed.

"I have always admired my father, and there is one significant event that always stands out in my mind," he went on to say. "When I was in the fifth grade, my father and I were going down the street and they were lowering the flag on that post. So there my father was, telling me we had to stop and what to do when the principal of my school comes along and starts blowing his horn at us and wouldn't get out of his car.

"My father physically jerked him out of the car and lectured him on allegiance to the flag and things like that," McLean said. "I will never forget that. Now that I've chosen the Army, I will strive to be like my father, and be the best NCO that I can."

"I think the ideal NCO would be someone who is here to listen to you when you have problems, is supportive of you in any endeavors you seek," Sp5 Christopher Peterson says. Peterson is a Soldier of Excellence, courtesy of a first place finish at the Schofield NCO Academy.

Units

"It would have to be someone who sticks to the book but is flexible. Someone who is there to watch over their subordinates and support them," he added.

Peterson, like McLean, cites a competitive attitude for his drive to succeed.

"I like to test myself to see how I compare to others. See how I stack up. I don't like to just accept myself the way I am, and say if I get by, I get by, if I get promoted, I get promoted. I want these things to come as early as possible. I don't wait for things to happen. I try to make them happen," Peterson said.

He advises other soldiers to excel.

"Competition builds self-esteem that will carry over to your job. You need confidence in the Army. If you are standing in front of five people on a promotion board, you are the only one there and you need that confidence," he said.

"It sets you apart and gives you a competitive edge in promotions and nominations for schools," Williams emphasizes. "And, of course, all this is documented in your records. So if I'm looking at your records and I see you are excelling above and beyond your peers, that sets you apart."

The NCO Academy produced other Soldiers of Excellence, including Sgt. Deborah Walen of Alpha Company.

"I really enjoyed the academy," she said. Walen made the Commandant's List for Excellence. "I enjoyed the marching and the physical training and the challenge of memorizing the exercises."

To Walen, a Soldier of Excellence carries an almost superhuman definition.



Physical fitness is an important part of a soldier's winning attitude, as demonstrated by Sp5 Timothy McLean. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)

When you say 'Soldier of Excellence' to me, I see soldiers with good posture, standing tall, being so full of life. They carry with them a lot of energy wherever they go," she said. "And yet there is a discipline to their character. They are people who have found themselves, know their limitations and how to overcome those limitations.

"These people are 24-hour-a-day soldiers. I don't imply that to mean they give their time to the Army 24 hours a day. I mean that the values the Army instills they maintain 24 hours a day. I have seen soldiers who fit this picture. It is something to strive for," she added.

On a Soldier of Excellence scale of one to ten, Walen would rate herself as a six.

"It varies from day to day. I believe I have been everywhere on that scale. I have hit one, and I have hit ten. When I hit ten, a week or so down the road I'm at three. That's just the way it works. Overall, on an average, I would say I am a six. Just squeaking over the middle there," she explained.

Walen describes herself as "hard core."

"When I come to do a job, I want to do my job, and I want to do it to the very best of my ability," Walen says.

This desire to succeed has to come from within the person, according to McLean.

"I have never seen a person accomplish something or excel because a supervisor made them," he said. "The biggest mistake NCOs can make is to force someone to do something like that. You have to have a thirst for self-improvement."

The Soldiers of Excellence do not have exclusive rights to the title, according to the 1984 top soldier at Field Station Kunia.

"I think the soldier who comes in and works six days on and two days off, comes in on a mid-shift and leaves his family at home, sacrifices in that way. I think that soldiers who spend their extra time to learn their mission succeed that way," Larson said. "I am not sacrificing any more than they sacrifice. We are all Soldiers of Excellence here."

Soldier of Excellence Ball

Junior soldiers got a glimpse of what a military function is all about at the recent Soldier of Excellence Ball held at the Hale Koa in Waikiki.

The ball attracted more than 300 participants to honor the Field Station Kunia and INSCOM Pacific theater's outstanding soldiers. The purpose of the ball was two-fold, according to field station CSM Odell Williams.

"The first reason was to recognize the Soldiers of Excellence. The second reason was to let the young soldier get involved in a social affair like a military ball so they could see it isn't a totally formal and stuffy affair," he said.

Competition for the INSCOM Pacific Soldier of the Year title is held here annually. The winner was announced at the ball. Sp4 Debra Larson from Kunia won the title, an Army Commendation Medal, trophy, and a plaque from the INSCOM Pacific sergeants major.

In past years, banquets were held after the Soldier of the Year Pacific competition for the candidates and the INSCOM Pacific sergeants major from Kunia, the 501st MI Group from Korea, Field Station Okinawa, and 500th MI Group from Japan.

Expanding the program to a ball this year was Williams' idea.

"I felt that if we were going to honor soldiers, it needed to culminate in something special," he said.

The ball began with an opening ceremony featuring a field station color guard presenting the colors of the United States and Army flags. The color guard, field station officials, and soldiers of excellence placed streamers representing each of the Army campaigns while MSgt. Dennis Preshoot narrated the history of how each streamer was awarded.

"We wanted to expose the younger soldiers to what takes place at a formal function," Preshoot said of the ceremo-

nies. "We combined a little of what goes on at a ball with other military affairs like dining-ins."

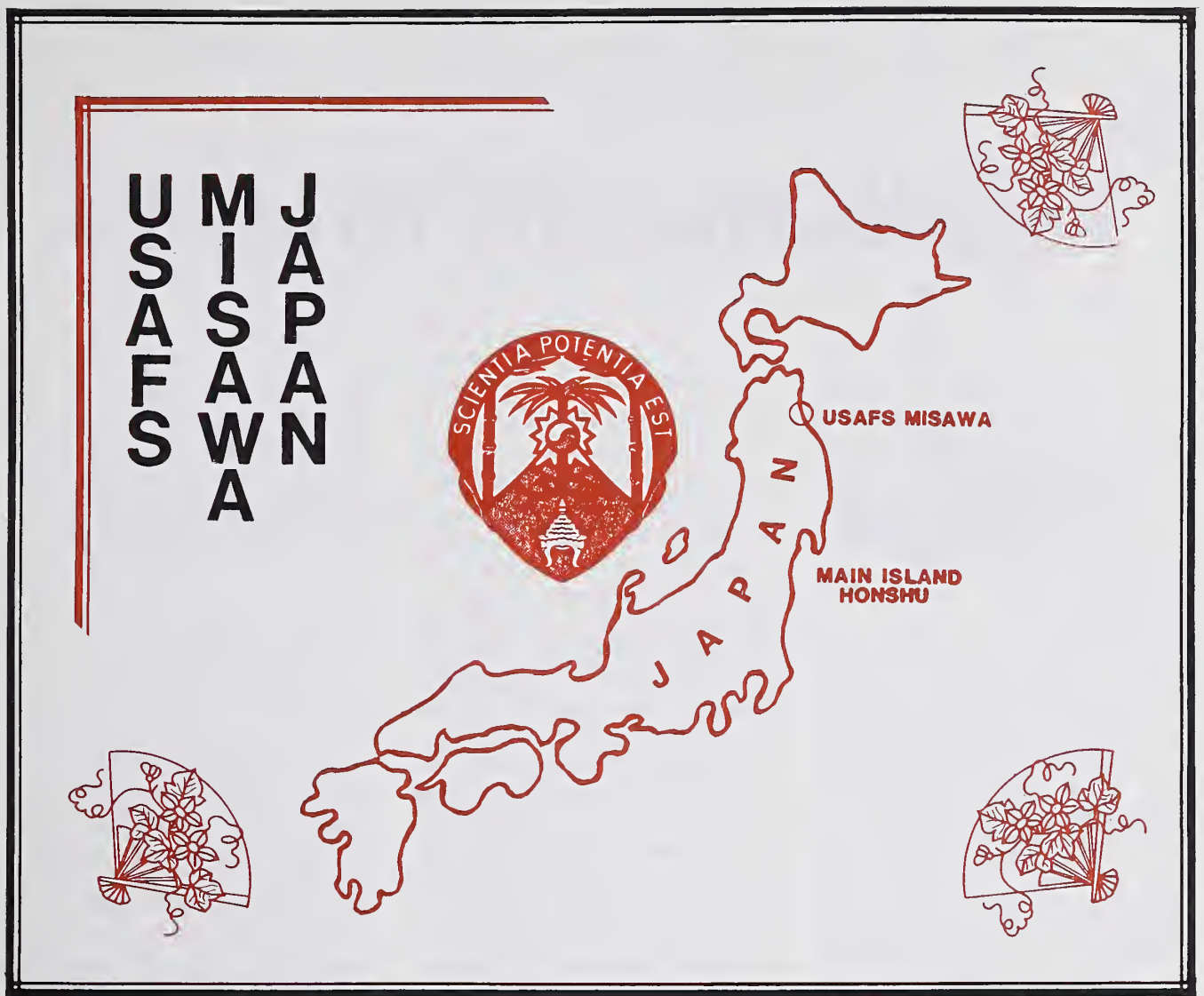
Guest speaker and Medal of Honor recipient retired Col. Lewis L. Millett placed the Korean Campaign ribbon on the flag. Millett received the nation's highest award for his bravery during the Korean conflict.

Millett later spoke on the history of soldiering and the importance of patriotism. He was then presented with a plaque, a field station T-shirt, and cap. Millett wore the "Kunia VIP" cap to Honolulu International Airport when he departed Hawaii the following day.

The invocation and benediction were performed by the field station chaplain, Lt. Col. Kiyoshi Itokazu. The color guard was comprised of Sgt. Wilfred Garza, Sgt. Russell Marks, Sgt. Robert Selby, PFC Edward Roberts, and PFC Ernest Mueller.



Sp4 Debra Larson receives the Soldier of the Year trophy from Field Station Commander Col. Robert M. Bowe. (Photo by Sp4 Cherrill Cantrell)



United States Army Field Station Misawa is collocated with the 6920th Electronic Security Group and the Naval Security Group Activity at Misawa Air Base, Japan. The Army unit, the smallest of the four services represented at Misawa, enjoys the reputation as "the best little field station in the world."

The history of Field Station Misawa is interwoven with that of three former Army Intelligence and Security units of Japan. Founded in September 1970, with the closure of Field Station Chitose, Field Station Misawa was composed of personnel from Hokkaido Field

Station. This unit was designated the United States Army Security Agency Detachment Misawa and was originally assigned the operational mission of U.S. Army Security Agency Field Station Chitose.

In June 1970, Detachment Misawa was subordinated under the command of U.S. Army Security Agency Field Station Hakata headquartered at Brady Air Station on the Island of Kyushu. The link with Field Station Hakata was of short duration. Detachment Misawa was redesignated as Field Station Misawa in August 1972 with the closure of

U.S. Army Security Agency Field Station Hakata and became a major component of the Army Security Agency.

In October 1977, the intelligence services of the United States were combined to form the Army Intelligence and Security Command and Field Station Misawa underwent another name change and became the United States Army Field Station Misawa.

Another change occurred in October 1979 when Field Station Misawa was resubordinated under the control of the 500th Military Intelligence Group headquartered at Camp Zama, Japan.

FS Misawa on Honshu

U.S. Army Field Station Misawa is located four hundred and fifty miles north of Tokyo in the northern part of the largest Japanese island, Honshu. The country is beautiful, the people are friendly, the base is growing, and the unit is close-knit.

Take out a map, find Japan, and put your finger on the northeastern tip of the big island; you have found us. We are on the same latitude as New York and have approximately the same weather pattern as New England. The winters are cold with an average snowfall of ten feet. The summers are warm, not hot, with only a month of temperatures in the 80's and 90's.

Being on the same island is about the only thing Tokyo and Misawa have in common. Tokyo is a huge, expensive, bustling city. Misawa, by contrast, is a small city set in a mountainous, rural community. Tokyo is Americanized with skyscrapers and many fast food stores dotting the streets. In Misawa, however, there are few buildings with more than three stories; there are no American chain stores; and the Japanese culture remains intact.

Misawa City and the surrounding community are located in one of the most beautiful areas of Japan. At the foot of the mountains and close to the ocean, Misawa introduces

by Maj. J.H. Martin

each season with a marked change: the snows of winter draw the skiers, the blossoms of spring initiate the festivals, the heat of summer brings on the water sports, and the changing leaves of autumn bring tourists from all over Japan. The area has a season to suit everyone's taste.

The Japanese people are exceptionally friendly to Americans. In Misawa, this friendliness is accentuated by their conservatism and support for the military. Language is not a serious barrier because the Japanese are naturally helpful and often go to great inconvenience to make Americans comfortable. Those Americans who have attempted the difficult Japanese language have made some fast friends in the community.

On the other side of our main gate is Misawa Air Force Base. The base host is the U.S. Air Force, but each of the other three services is also represented here. In addition to the quad-service community, the Japanese Northern Air Self Defense Force is headquartered at Misawa. In this military environment, the Army Field Station is the smallest unit.

The base is growing by leaps and bounds as preparations are made for the F-16 wing that begins its arrival in 1985.

Most noteworthy of the changes are a new commissary, a new PX, a new sports complex, various restaurants, 350 new housing units, and other additional support and recreational facilities. Each of these changes will make Misawa a better, more appealing place to live.

The Army Field Station is a close-knit family. Our size in comparison to our sister services and our isolated location are the primary contributors to forging this closeness. Our closeness results in a cooperative spirit and a "can-do" attitude that characterizes all of our activities. The unit is organized into seven platoons based on duty section and shift (six and two). The platoons work, train, and often socialize together.

In addition to our mission, we have off-duty activities available. For the athletically inclined, we enter a team in each intramural sports activity on base, and we have several soldiers who participate on the Air Force base teams which compete on the interservice level in Japan. For those interested in the products Japan has to offer, stereo equipment, video equipment, cameras, and computers are readily available at reasonable prices, and there are clubs which meet regularly to share interests in each of these areas. For those interested in travel, there

are MAC flights to Korea, Hawaii, the Philippines, and Okinawa; in addition, there are commercial flights and discount tours available to other locations in the Far East such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Singapore. For those interested in Japan, the Misawa area has it all: friendly atmosphere, large cities nearby, history, and culture.

The Misawa community has something for every taste. There are the normal range of activities on a military base and, just outside the gate, the Japanese culture awaits the curious. Misawa offers a unique opportunity to live in the comfort of a modern U.S. base and enjoy the Japanese culture—both past and present.

Japanese culture

by Sgt. Penni Ryherd

About two hours south of Akita City, by express train, lies the small town of Yokote. It is a quiet agricultural town in the center of a vast rice-growing area. The people there are exceptionally nice and friendly. The great event in Yokote is the Kamakura or Bon-Ten Festival which falls on the lunar calendar New Year, February 15th. The Festival lasts for three days.

Kamakura is the name given in Yokote to the little snow houses which are scooped out of the large drifts and piles of snow at the sides of the streets, or in private gardens. Women and children, wearing fine kimonos or hooded cloaks of straw, sit inside the Kamakura. A Tatami (rice mat) is placed on the snow-covered floor. The women and children sit around a brazier (fire of hot coals) with their legs covered with pretty 'futon's or quilts.

On the brazier they heat pots of sweet sake, called Ama-Zake, which they serve to visitors. Ama-Zake is extremely sweet and thick, and

non-alcoholic. Riccakes, too, are roasted over the charcoal embers in the brazier.

It is pleasant to be around the children, their rosy cheeks and dark eyes glowing in the candlelit interiors. However, not all snow houses have candlelit interiors, some have been rigged with electricity. In the back wall of each Kamakura there is a little niche for a Shinto Shrine, with lighted candles and offerings of oranges, sake, apples, and riccakes. These are the gifts to the God of Water, so important for the rice fields in the spring and summer. On the morning of the 16th, there is the Bon-Ten Parade, one of Japan's most colorful parades.

After visiting the Kamakura, one can walk around the grounds of the elementary school. There you will see massive snow sculptures of athletes, animals, working men, gods and good luck symbols, very well executed.

At the end of the festival season, the once-quiet town of Yokote will return to its small town atmosphere in the heart of the vast rice-growing region in Japan.





sonal climate. Each of the four seasons offers something different for the avid sightseer and photographer.

Aside from the historical areas, northern Japan boasts some of the most interesting natural wonders of the world. Hot springs abound and are the source of many hot baths.

Lake Towada, southwest of the city, is 28 miles in circumference and was created from several volcanoes. This area alone offers many seasonal treats. In the fall of the year, the contrast of the foliage with the blue water is breathtaking.

During the winter, Misawans try their hand at snow sports as the area has many ski resorts.

The climate of Misawa is quite similar to the northeastern coast of Maine, with four seasonal changes.

Summer temperatures are pleasant, with an average of four days per year having 90-degree maximum temperatures. Fog occurs frequently during the early morning hours from May to August.

Winter snowfall averages 117 inches per year, with nearly all of that falling between mid-November and early April.

Monthly precipitation generally ranges from three to four inches throughout most of the year. The average increases to six inches in September, and this increase is related to the tropical storm activity—or typhoons—that affect the area most frequently in September.

The main cities surrounding the area are Hachinohe to the south, Towada to the southwest and Aomori to the northwest.

(Editor's note: Reprinted from the *INSCOM Journal*, April 1981. In 1981 the article was reprinted from the *Misawa Base Guide*, by permission.)

The islands of Japan

Japan, composed of more than 150 islands, has five main islands: Honshu, Hokkaido, Shikoku, Kyushu and Okinawa. Misawa is located on the largest of these islands, Honshu, in the extreme northeast. Although the land mass is small, the territorial boundaries encompass a fairly large area. If laid along the eastern seaboard of the United States, Japan would stretch from upper New York State down into Florida.

Americans assigned to

Misawa can visit historical areas of northern Honshu which boasts fifteenth-century castles, temples, and gardens. Many festivals are held annually in the surrounding cities which have histories that date back to the earliest days of the Japanese culture.

Although the language is different, few people find it difficult to get around. Group trips are scheduled for the major festivals held throughout the year.

Northern Honshu has a sea-

Base construction

by Sp4 Kathleen Condo

To the average American citizen, the sound of the jackhammer means construction and progress. To Misawa Air Base residents, it means that and much more as the base prepares to house, outfit, and care for a new wing of F-16 fighters—and the 3,000 people accompanying them.

The steady, rhythmic “thwock ... thwock ... thwock...” of heavy machinery sinking pylons deep into the bedrock to secure buildings in this earthquake-prone nation has become an almost

comforting presence as Japanese and Americans go about their daily business. And it models the F-16 motto: “Pardon our noise ... it’s the sound of freedom!”

In addition to the buildings already constructed in this continuing renovation and enlargement of the air base, the new two-story commissary, scheduled to be completed by March 1985, should prove to be the base’s showpiece building.

Another first for Japan is the establishment of the American fast-food restaurant at Misawa Air Base. Not an AAFES concession, the hamburger chain is well known in the States.

Road construction, sewer line installations, and barracks and family housing renovation are just some of the ongoing projects in the works this winter. It seems, at times, that scaffolding multiplies at night, and holes are excavated within the blink of an eye. And just as quickly, without sacrificing quality, new structures appear, almost like magic except for the highly visible Japanese construction crews.

Seven days a week, from before daybreak to after sunset, Japanese construction crews are hard at work on projects to enhance the quality of life of Misawa Air Base residents. The crews seem as much a part of the base as the military

personnel, except that their colorful and unusual outfits, in a rainbow of quilting and paisley, are a great contrast to the Army olive drab and the Air Force blue.

An unusually large number of women work right alongside the men doing hard physical labor. To an American eye accustomed to blue jeans, heavy boots and work shirts, the Japanese women seem an effective but dainty-looking workforce in their quilted jackets and flowered pants.

Although the ever-present construction in all corners of the base does cause minor annoyances, in the long run, Misawa soon will be one of the most modern and convenient bases in the Pacific theater.





Artistic expression in nature

Ikebana: the art of arranging living flowers

by SSgt. Beth Guzman

In a country where gardens are worshiped, the gathering of a casual spring bouquet is child's play. The Japanese have developed Ikebana into a serious art form with living masterpieces.

What is Ikebana exactly? The literal translation means "living flowers," but the term has blossomed into a full description of the art of arranging living flowers. Of all the Japanese cultural arts, Ikebana is the most universal.

Ikebana was introduced to Japan as early as the seventh century. When the first ambassador to China returned to Japan, he brought back information about temple and landscape architecture and the

Buddhist religion. He also told of the floral offerings to Buddha called "Kuge."

Offerings of flowers were readily accepted by a people whose own Shinto religion regarded natural objects such as trees, rocks or mountains as having human qualities. Kuge itself was a simple type of offering, sometimes in a vase, but sometimes merely presented by hand, as is depicted in old scrolls or paintings.

The Japanese then developed flower arranging beyond the confines of a religious offering until it became a highly skilled cultural art and an integral part of life.

Several styles of Ikebana have developed through the years. A few of them are Tatebana (flowers arranged in an upright or standing position), Rikka (also standing but limited in the number of branches, their placement and the angles), Nageire (anything that wasn't considered Rikka), Moribana (flowers in a shallow dish) and freestyle. But these are just a sample of the many creative possibilities of Ikebana.

Ikebana may be new and different to many people outside of Japan, but thousands worldwide have studied and continue to study the beautiful art.

The hot bath in Japan: an experience

by Sp4 Kathleen Condo

"Irasshaimase!" Welcome! Welcome to the Japanese hot bath and an experience so much a part of Japanese daily life that it is a microcosm of the spirit and traditions of ancient Japan. For 200 to 500 yen (approximately 80¢ to \$2.00), an unforgettable and many-layered experience awaits.

The Japanese reverence for cleanliness is not the only reason for the popularity of the hot baths; they also appeal to the spirit of the family unit and the naturally social nature of the Nihonjin (Japanese people). Entire families go to the hot baths together to clean their bodies and to refresh their hearts and spirits after a day's toil. Today, most baths are partitioned and the sexes separated, but one can still see young Japanese boys of six years old or so bathing with their mothers, grandmothers, and sisters. Doll-like Japanese children toddle around, shyly

glancing at strangers.

The Japanese people, totally matter-of-fact about their bodies and bodily functions, may sneak a quick sidelong look at the "gaiijin" (foreigner) but they are almost always too polite to be obvious about it. It is apparent at "The Baths" how well the Japanese people have learned to be alone within themselves even while surrounded by others. The hot bath is both a personal and group experience.

The ritual of the bath itself is to be savored. The bather grabs a small stool and bucket and thoroughly soaps and scrubs his body with water from a small faucet or shower head. When thoroughly clean, and only then, does he slowly lower himself into the public tub for a long soak. The water seems unbearably hot at first, but the body quickly adapts to the high temperature as muscles loosen and unwind. The cares of the day melt slowly away, tensions disappear, and a sense of peace and tranquility prevails.

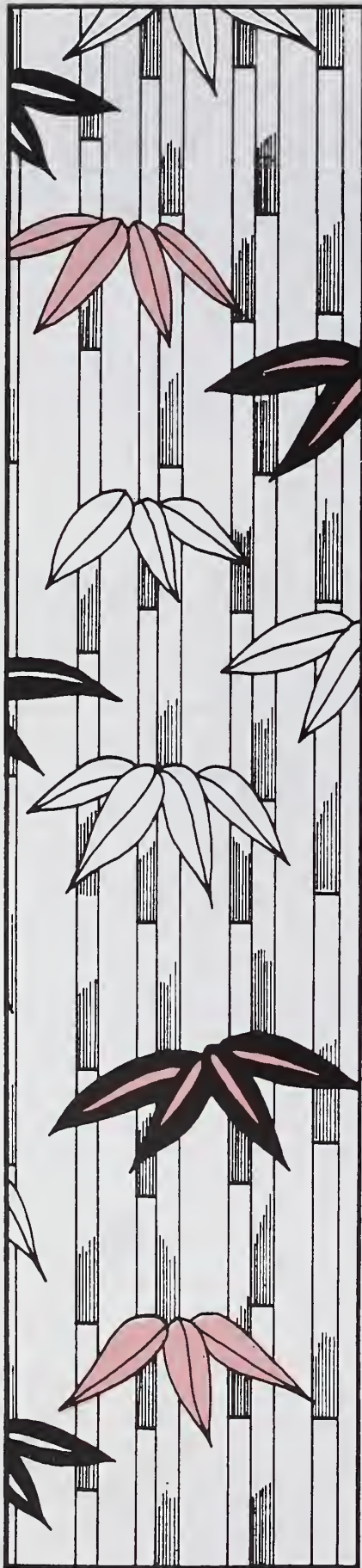
The warmth of the hot tub is alternated with a dip in a cold tub to stimulate the respiratory

system and bloodflow to the skin; this is roughly the same experience as jumping into a stream in the high mountains! A few minutes in the public steamroom or sauna cap off the relaxing bath sequence.

Americans who make the hot bath a routine in their life soon discover a secret of the ritual; it is a perfect gathering and socializing spot to relax with co-workers and neighbors after a day's work. For Americans who live off-base in Misawa, the hot bath is a great way to get to know Japanese neighbors and to learn the language and culture through experience. And if one is lucky, he might get his back scrubbed in the process!



This building, with its old style thatched roof, houses a modern run business—Kamaki's Hot Bath and Spring. Kamaki's is the most popular hot bath in the Misawa area; it is also a Japanese tourist attraction and resort area. (Photo by Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair)



At FS Misawa barracks life can be fun

by Kathleen Condo

The term "barracks life" conjures up images of basic training in some sandy, hot, unpleasant place where the buildings and furnishings saw their good days before World War II. Field Station barracks dwellers are pleasantly surprised to find that "home, sweet home" is a new, four-story building with separate dayrooms and laundry facilities on each floor. But that is only the first of many surprises.

Life in Japan can be a unique experience for Americans, and barracks living is no exception. A total of 10 beds, for instance, may exist on a dorm floor with 40 rooms. No, we do not all sleep together. Although a bed is furnished if the resident wants one, most people prefer to sleep on a Japanese "futon." The futon, the traditional Japanese bed, is a special sleeping mat with a top comforter. It can be purchased in Japanese specialty shops or department stores for \$50 and up (single) and for \$100 and up (double). During non-sleeping hours, the futon and comforter are stored away in a closet or corner to free space in typically

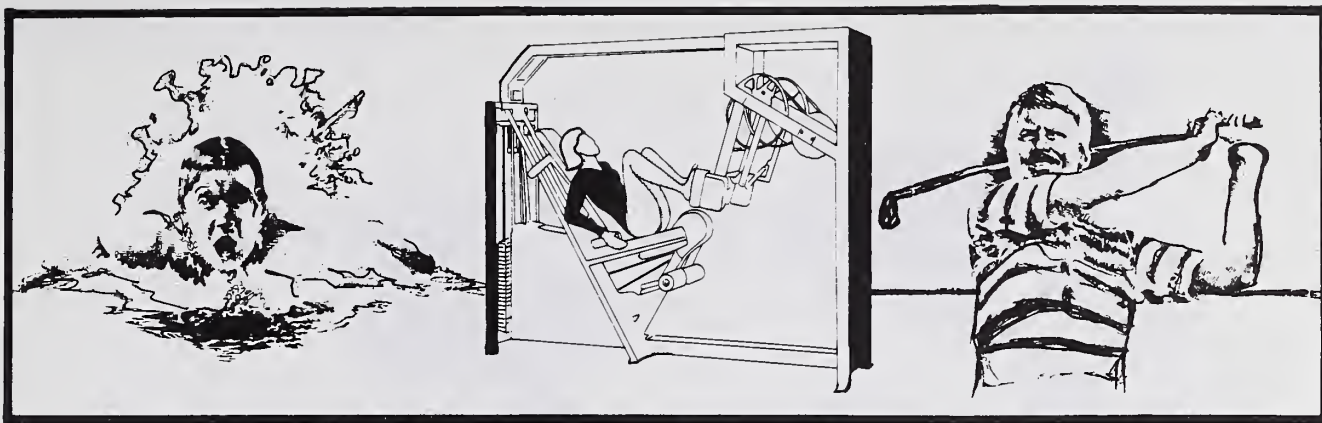
small Japanese homes or barracks rooms.

Most barracks rooms are set up for double occupancy and have large floor-to-ceiling wooden closets built along one wall. Wooden desk and shelving units and modular stacking shelves can be moved and arranged to suit the occupant's taste. Refrigerators and wall-to-wall carpeting are standard items in all rooms.

A private bathroom and large shower connect to an adjacent dorm room. Communal bathrooms do not exist in these barracks; no more than four people share a bath. Another unique touch is that heat is not automatically piped throughout the entire building—each room has its own heat source, regulated by the occupants.

Dayroom facilities include a microwave oven, video games, a color TV, a VCR with movies, couches, telephones, and a library. Official parties and more casual get-togethers seem to gravitate to the dayroom, a natural meeting place. Outside picnic shelters, complete with tables and charcoal pits, are built beside each dorm building.

We do live a rough life in Misawa—but someone has to!



New additions and new activities

by Sp4 Kathleen Condo

Within the coming months, the face of Misawa Air Base will become even more diverse than its multi-service community makes it now. A new F-16 fighter wing, arriving in the summer of 1985, will bring an estimated 3,000 additional personnel along, all needing housing, shopping facilities, medical and dental care, school, and related service facilities. Hordes of new buildings already crowd the base, part of a major construction/rehabilitation plan to provide for the incoming wing.

A brand-new high school was just completed last year, as was a thoroughly modern dining facility, Grissom Dining Hall, located adjacent to the Army barracks.

The 24-hour gymnasium, catering to the needs of the base's large shift-working population, is also within walking distance of the barracks. It houses a wide range of facilities including a mat room for karate, self-defense, and exercise classes; a large weight room featuring two Universal gyms and a new Nautilus sys-

tem; basketball, racquetball, and squash courts; an indoor swimming pool; and steam rooms and locker areas. As if this were not enough, a new sports complex is scheduled to be built in the coming year.

The base maintains five outdoor tennis courts, all open for nighttime play. A quarter-mile track and football stadium, home of the interservice post team, the Misawa Jets, sees a great deal of activity from the sports-minded Misawa military community. Intramural leagues in football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, and softball flourish since interservice competition is serious business on base.

Probably the most unusual sports facility for a military installation is the Ski Lodge, which overlooks Lake Ogawara and the Field Station site. Perfect for the beginning skier or advanced skier who wants to brush up on his skills, the ski area is a busy place from December through April. With a breathtaking view of Lake Ogawara, the lodge is also a popular place

for private parties and unit get-togethers.

Fishing, swimming, water skiing, boating, and picnic facilities are available for Misawa personnel from the base's beach on Lake Ogawara. The lake is also a panoramic backdrop for the 18-hole Gosser Memorial Golf Course. A driving range, pro shop, snack bar, and locker room complete the complex, which is used both by American and by Japanese military families.

Two bowling lanes serve the recreational needs of Misawa, and league play also is serious sporting business on base.

No listing of Misawa recreational facilities is complete without mentioning Lake Towada, a Japanese resort area, that is located an hour-and-a-half drive to the southwest of Misawa-shi (city). The lake is beautiful with its deep blue water within the circle of mountains. It attracts both Japanese and American photo buffs from all over the north to its scenic panoramas, seasonal foliage and waterfalls cascading down timbered, rocky hillsides.

Lake Towado also lures outdoor enthusiasts who love to camp, fish, waterski, and hike.

Thus, Misawa is a place for all seasons. Most certainly we are one of the few bases with a beach and ski slope on the base itself.



The time of festivals

As the sun's rays fade to dusk in Aomori, Japan, the crowd strains its ears in excitement, listening to the approaching drum beats. Suddenly, a wave of colorfully-dressed dancers bursts onto the main street, swaying and chanting and laughing—the Nebuta Festival has begun!

In Japan, where modernization is steadily overcoming traditional culture, the festivals maintain important links to the past. The Nebuta Festival is just one of many unique “giant parties” in Northern Japan that draws people from far and near to see a parade, to watch the cherry blossoms bloom, or just to drink and socialize.

Misawa is a good departure point for several big festivals: the Nebuta Festival in Aomori, a large coastal city on the Mutsu Bay; the Ice Festivals in Morioka, a centrally-located city in the Aomori province, and the internationally-famous one in Sapporo, a beautiful city on the northernmost Japanese island of Hokkaido; and the Cherry Blossom Festival in Hirosaki, a picturesque city in the northwest of Honshu. Each of these festivals highlights a different season in Japan and entices groups of excited Americans, as well as Japanese, to pile into cars, buses, and trains to attend.

The historic Nebuta Festival, a parade of huge papier-mache dummies, music-makers, and

by Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair

dancers, commemorates an ancient warlord's victory over a rebel army. Each August night during the week-long festival, the sidewalks of Aomori's

main street are jammed with spectators and vendors. The vendors provide endless beer and sake along with tempting snacks like yakitori (barbecued chicken) and yakasoba (fried noodles). But the spectators' attention focuses mainly on the huge, candlelit floats of fa-



In April, Japanese and American tourists flock to the Cherry Blossom Festival on the Hirosaki park grounds. There they drink sake, socialize, and tour the feudal-era castle located there. (Photo by Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair)

bled Samari warriors and maidens which glide eerily down the street. Separating the floats, hundreds of kimono-clad dancers fill the street, pulling spectators into frantic, impromptu circle dances. An insistent drumbeat

presides over this wild parade. The Morioka Ice Festival, held early in the new year, is famous for its enormous ice sculptures; entire castles and buildings are molded out of ice and snow, not to mention breathtaking ice statues of

birds, fountains, and Buddha. The temperature hovers around zero as snugly-dressed Japanese families wander in and out among the displays before heading to the warming tent for hot pastries and warm sake.

The Sapporo Ice Festival is the Granddaddy of Ice Festivals. There, in early February, entire villages are constructed of ice, and competition is fierce for the most detailed, delicate, prize-winning sculpture.

In late April or early May, the arrival of spring attracts crowds of people to the Hirosaki Cherry Blossom Festival to marvel at the beauty of the blossoms and to enjoy the historical sights. The festival is held on the park grounds where an old castle once stood. The delicate cherry blossoms adorn the remains of this ancient castle. The large watch tower is filled with interesting artifacts. The castle gates, guard towers, and moat make a tour of the grounds an enjoyable step back to the days of feudal Japan.

These colorful festivals are just a few of the many opportunities that are available for Americans to sample the traditional Japanese culture.



Field Station Misawa soldiers pose in front of a giant ice sculpture at the Morioka Ice Festival. Left to right: Sgt. Penni Ryherd holding her daughter Dana, Sp4 Jan Janoski, Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair, and Sgt. Laurie Platt. (Photo by Sgt. Marc Ryherd)



At the Morioka Ice Festival, Japanese ice sculpturers work for months to mold castles, statues and smaller buildings from snow and ice. (Photo by Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair)



Beginning skiers get some practice on the golf course at Misawa Air Base on a blustery cold day. (Photo by Sp4 Annie-Laurie Blair)

Skiing at Misawa

by SFC Don Markman

For a ski enthusiast, an assignment to Misawa is a real treat. In northern, mountainous Honshu there are at least 20 ski areas offering a wide range of opportunities on the slopes. In addition, many more resorts are just a short trip away on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido; these include the site of the 1976 Winter Olympics.

On Misawa Air Base, the ski slope operated by the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

(MWR) department is an excellent beginner's run with a rope tow. More advanced skiers can improve their techniques there in preparation for serious off-base slopes.

Other than hopping a train or a bus, there are two principal means of reaching the advanced ski slopes. The first is through the "Mogul Mashers" Ski Club on base, which sponsors trips to the various ski areas near Misawa. Last year, the club had more than 300

members and was able to charter buses every other weekend to different resorts. Secondly, one can take advantage of the MWR tours, which run nearly every weekend during the ski season. Additionally, MWR sponsors trips on weekdays for shiftworkers.

One of the more popular ski areas in the Misawa area is Appi, a typical but somewhat larger than average ski resort. Appi has eleven chairlifts varying from 688 meters to 1,251 meters in length. The closest resort to Misawa is Noheji. About an hour away by car or bus, Noheji has chairlifts up to 214 meters and 440 meters.

Ski equipment is readily available in the Misawa area, ranging from moderately-priced to more expensive racing gear. Larger skiers may have difficulty in finding equipment that fits; Japanese men average 5'5" in height and are naturally slim in build. The size problem is true for both Alpine and Nordic equipment.

Cross-country skiing seems to be the winter alternative to the Japanese people's fanaticism with running in good weather. Areas with groomed trails are not as frequent as in the United States, but on the air base the Japanese military personnel ski all over, creating an extensive network of trails.

Field Station Misawa, too, has its orders in for ski PT equipment, and soon Army platoons will be lining up for PT formation in ski boots.

For the occasional skier who does not want the expense of purchasing his own equipment, MWR provides Alpine and Nordic equipment for a nominal fee.

If there are any skiing soldiers out there on orders for Misawa, be prepared to have a ball! If you are on orders for Hawaii, I am sorry.



In the ring, Sp4 Mark Brooks faces the 8th-ranked Japanese fighter.

Brooks is winning boxer

Mail delivery is slow to isolated Misawa in northern Japan, so Mark Brooks is not waiting for an invitation to the Japanese national boxing championships. He is earning his ticket the hard way—with his winning fists.

With three winning fights under his belt in the national Japanese Boxing Tournament, Brooks has a good chance of being a contender in the championship round. Coming out on top in that prestigious final would give him the professional Japanese featherweight ranking of 10th in Japan after only five fights. This is all

by Sp4 Mark Brooks

pretty impressive for a 23-year-old U.S. Army specialist who has only been boxing for 18 months.

Brooks started his boxing career at Ft. Dix, New Jersey, during Army Basic Training in 1983. After his Army job training, the boxer's first duty assignment was the field station, where he has continued his training.

Brooks is used to "being a winner." His athletic prowess at the field station has earned him first-place trophies in the annual, base-wide 5.5-mile

combat run, and for the fastest average time in a 24-hour relay race.

Since he arrived in Misawa in October 1983, he has won two Tokyo boxing matches by first-round knockouts, and a third by unanimous decision. All were against Japanese nationals; the last contender was 4-0 until he met Brooks.

"I won't let an opponent's record psych me out," Brooks explains. To motivate himself for a fight and to play down the opponent's record, he convinces himself that "if he's 15-0, he'll be 15-1 when our fight's over."



Mark Brooks, FS Misawa's athlete extraordinaire, sprints his way toward the finish line of the 1984 Combat Cross Country Run. Although a boxer by choice, Brooks has just as many trophies in running as he does in boxing. (Photo by Sgt. Ron Stark)

The extraordinary thing about Brooks' fighting is that he manages it at all. His schedule is a rotating-schedule shift of six days on and two days off. In spite of that, six days a week he travels to the Hachinohe Boxing Club, a 45-minute drive from Misawa, to work out with his Japanese trainer, Sadahiro Gonohe-san. To attend the tournament fights in Tokyo, Brooks takes leave from work.

"Boxing is a demanding sport that requires a lot of training," says Brooks. "But it's also very rewarding. It does take away from my family life, but my wife is supportive of my efforts."

His boxing style, he says, is a combination of counterpunch and technical fighting. It is not patterned after any fighter in particular, although he admires Sugar Ray Leonard for his speed, tactics and style.





A different type of food

Eating out

by SSgt. Beth Guzman

Japanese restaurants can be a fun experience. Their cuisine is different, as well as their serving style, from their western counterparts. Yes, there is a hamburger place in Morioka, Japan, within driving distance of Misawa Air Base and there is a fried chicken restaurant in Hachinohe, even closer, but neither location is close enough for that last minute dinner excursion.

When one enters a restaurant in Japan, courtesy bows are exchanged by both host and guest. After the customers are seated, a waiter or waitress will bring a tiny glass of water and an *oshibori* (hot towel) for wiping one's hands.

Menus are quite often printed in English and will have the price indicated whereas those that serve mostly the natives do not.

Among the many types of restaurants in Japan, a Japanese noodle shop is especially popular at lunch time. In addition to a variety of hot and cold noodle dishes, a few of the most popular Chinese noodle dishes and simple rice meals are also available. Different kinds of noodles can be identified by their containers such as a bowl of soup noodles, a plate of Chinese noodles or Japanese varieties in a box-like container.

The traditional Japanese restaurant, the *koryori-ya*, offers a variety of seasonal fresh fish and vegetables served in the native style. It is this type of restaurant that serves *Sake* (rice wine) with its appetizers.

The *sushi* shop, most distinctive of the small Japanese restaurants, serves seasoned rice topped with raw fish—on occasions, the fish may be cooked.

Also, in Japan, the inexpensive Chinese restaurant, known as the *chuka ryori-ya*, offers Japanese versions of Chinese dishes. In addition to the inexpensive Chinese restaurants, there are those that are expensive, authentic, and offer a wide variety of Chinese foods.

The *shokudo*, or 'mixed' restaurant, offers a mixed group of foods. The offerings may include popular Chinese noodle dishes, a few western rice dishes, Japanese rice dishes, and desserts. This is a favorite eating place of single businessmen and college students living away from home.

The restaurants offering desserts, snacks, soft drinks, coffee and tea are known as the *kissaten*.

The above listed restaurants are a sampling of eating places in Japan. Someone once said, "Variety is the spice of life"—what better variety is there than the restaurants in Japan?

family album

Soldier saves baby

For saving the life of an infant, SSgt. Terence M. Murphy Jr., 1st Operations Battalion, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal by Col. Floyd L. Runyon, Commander, Field Station Augsburg.

Murphy, on his way home from work, had just dropped off a fellow soldier at a housing area near Flak. As he was driving off, a woman on the fifth floor balcony screamed for help.

Responding to her call, Murphy took the seemingly lifeless baby from her. Clearing the infant's airway, he started mouth-to-nose resuscitation while applying pressure to its swollen stomach. With this action, a small amount of water was discharged from the baby's mouth.

Murphy continued mouth-to-nose resuscitation until the infant responded by vomiting and its color returned. The baby, now revived, was wrapped in a blanket and mother and baby awaited the arrival of the ambulance.

SSgt. Murphy's quick actions saved the life of the infant, who had been left unattended momentarily, in the bath.



SSgt. Terence M. Murphy was presented the Army Commendation Medal for his action in saving a baby's life. The award was presented by Col. Floyd L. Runyon, Commander of Field Station Augsburg. (Photo by Terry Auld)

Diedrich teaches gymnastics

When he walks into the gymnasium, his students are already warming up. A tiny army of twisting, stretching youngsters dot the mat-cushioned floor.

He turns to lay his gym bag in a corner, wriggling his stocking feet from his sneakers. As he tosses aside the towel that draped his neck, he doesn't see the following of

children that race to greet him.

Nearly tackled, he is baptized in squeals.

"Tim!, Tim! ...," the gym begins to echo.

His eyes dart about the commotion; sparkling, but with disarming warmth.

A boyish, almost bashful grin lights his face as he lifts one of the smallest to his shoulders.

family album



Diedrich watches for proper landing as an advanced beginner clears the vaulting horse. (U.S. Army photo by Sp4 Timothy Frame)

Four days a week, Field Station Okinawa's Sgt. Timothy S. Diedrich doesn't go home after work. Deep down, he knows the kids are the reason.

He's headed instead for the Kadena Youth Center where he teaches gymnastics to some 100 beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Whether it's something about gymnastics, or something about the kids, he only knows he's needed; and what he finds there, he needs, too.

A gymnastics enthusiast from childhood, Diedrich began teaching the sport in his Appleton, Wis., hometown

shortly before joining the Army.

To Diedrich, it's simple. There is a personal exhilaration in gymnastics that he wishes for his students; he's determined to share it. He said, "Ever since junior high, gymnastics has been my love; my only true sport."

He taught for three years while stationed in Germany, but at Field Station Okinawa could find no hint of youth gymnastics on the island ... until an advertisement caught his eye last July. The pamphlet announced a gymnastics clinic sponsored through the youth

center. The next day, he was knocking on their door.

To the other instructors, it was a paying job. But Diedrich wouldn't hear of it.

"I've already got a job," he insisted. "I just want to volunteer."

Diedrich is the first to admit that gymnastics is hard work, conditioning, and dedication. Not just for the sake of a new stunt, though. To his students, aged four to 16, it's an invitation to grow. And nourishing that need is Diedrich's priceless return.

"When you do something for the first time that you couldn't do before, it's tremendous," Diedrich explained. "It builds their bodies, and their little minds, too."

Continuing, "You can take a kid with two left feet, and give them a right foot. It teaches confidence, self-esteem, and creates achievement. And I love kids. I think I've got something to offer them."

Diedrich paused, still hunting a better word. "To me, it's uplifting. They motivate themselves, through me. I always rag 'em that if an old man like me can do it, then they can, too. It's been wonderful. It's occupied my time; given me something rewarding to do."

The day's session done, Diedrich heads home hot, tired, and beat. Inside, though, he's glowing.

Tomorrow, he'll go back, returning again, exhausted.

Why?

"My love for the sport," Diedrich says, then hesitates, smiling. "And for the kids."



Team handball in Sinop

by Rick Bretz

Just before dawn breaks, Diogenes Station's officers, bleary-eyed but energetic, crawl from their bunks and dress in many color and texture combinations of physical fitness fashions. Full of energy and vitality, they arrive at the post gym to play a rousing, competitive game of team handball.

"Pain has a whole new dimension," said CWO2 James Trest, who plays goalie, admittedly the most frightening position on the handball team. He continued, "It's a terrifying position because the ball, that hurtling piece of leather, travels between 50 to 100 miles per hour—and you're between the ball and the net."

Team handball players use skills from basketball. They dribble, pass and shoot into a net, but this net is much larger. The net stands six feet, six inches high and spans over nine feet across. From a distance it looks like a miniature soccer game played with hands instead of feet.

Played with seven players per side, team handball is not a sport for weak hearts. There is a lot of running, jumping, passing and roughing it up. The object of the game is to take a midget soccer ball and dribble, pass, or whatever is necessary to get a shot at the net. Of course, there are rules;

no walking with the ball, and a player can only take shots outside a perimeter toward the goalie.

Col. Theodore Fichtl, American Forces Commander, said, "I introduced this game to the officers because I thought it would be an innovative way to encourage physical fitness and, since there were so many new officers on post, it would be a way for them to get to know one another."

Actually, the excitement of team handball began at Fort Huachuca, where 2d Lt. Mark Mitchell was stationed. Prior to Mitchell's departure for Sinop, he went to the Library of Congress, per Col. Fichtl's request, to search for rules on playing the game.

Once Mitchell arrived at Sinop, the wheels began to turn. Classes were held to explain the rules; a tape showing the game as it was played at the Olympics in Los Angeles was run; teams were picked, and the dates were set.

"Once people learn the game, it really is a lot of fun. It's also the kind of game everyone can play," said the Commander.

The game is a competitive one. Tempers flare, words are said, and one's competitive nature is fueled. In one game, the Orange Team led the Blue Team 8-3, only to see its lead dwindle at a later time.



Jerry Kimble dribbles around a defender in an attempt to shoot at the goal. (U.S. Army photo by Rick Bretz)



"I love it. It's action packed. I never walk off the court without sweating profusely," said Maj. Charles Lucia, Commander of USAISC. "It's got everything—running, jumping, dribbling, and passing."

In this game, the Orange

Team held on for a 12-8 victory. "We have a lot of fun. You can vent a lot of frustration," said Capt. Jerry Kimble.

Whether venting anxieties or keeping in shape, team handball is the physical fitness rave at the northernmost point of

Turkey's Black Sea coast. Col. Fichtl hopes that other personnel, as well as the officers, will eventually become interested in playing the game.

So, move over basketball and soccer, team handball's here to stay!

FS Kunia holds own Olympics

by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht

The Olympic spirit touched Field Station Kunia recently as the unit organized its own version of the Olympics. More than 500 athletes from the Army, Air Force, Navy, and civilian employees of the field station competed in events ranging from basketball to canoe racing. The Air Force team from the 6924th Electronic Security Squadron walked away with the overall title with a tally of 40 medals, followed by the Army's Alpha Company with 25 medals, Army's Headquarters Company with 24 medals, and Bravo Company of the same service with 23 medals.

INSCOM Theater Intelligence Center-Pacific (ITIC-PAC), an attached unit located at Fort Shafter, finished with 14 medals, and a composite team of command group officials, civilians, and contractors totaled 13 medals. The Naval Security Group Activity Kunia ended competition with 10 medals.

Competition officially began in late August, but the preparation began in March, according to William Rittmeister, Athletic and Recreation Director.

"The whole structure of the Olympics was based on safety, participation, and compiling togetherness within the field station," he said. "Competition was important, but the main theme was participation in an effort to bring everybody together."

The Olympic effort involved coordination with several area commands to accommodate the 24 events. Competition was held on Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Air Force Base, the field station recreation area, and in the case of darts, inside the field station facility.

Several of the events were judged by individual and team times, rather than one-on-one competition. This allowed more participants a chance to compete with a flexible event schedule, according to Sp4

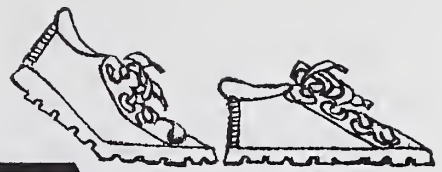
John Younger, an assistant to Rittmeister who co-coordinated the Olympics along with Sp5 Melody Applegate and Sp4 John Dimery of the Athletics and Recreation Branch.

"There were some scheduling conflicts that centered around the field station," Younger said. "But the major goal remained participation. It was a pretty big task, and we had some problems, but I guess that is natural for the first time."

"You never realize how things are going to turn out until it is finally finished," Rittmeister said. "You can only hope you are going to have enough support to run things right. I didn't expect it to turn out as well as it did. We made modifications strictly for participation, but we didn't change the rules."

Sportsmanship was "outstanding," he added.

"From the losers to the winners, sportsmanship was outstanding," he said. "The



SSgt. Michael Thomas of ITIC-PAC readies himself in the racquetball competition held at Schofield Barracks. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



David Black of ITIC-PAC makes the extra effort in the volleyball finals. The team took the bronze medal. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



Reginald McKinney of ITIC-PAC shoots his way to two gold medals in basketball competition held at the Wheeler Air Force Base gym. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



In the tennis competition of FS Kunia's Olympics, PFC Daniel Heldenbrand of Alpha Company, puts extra effort into his serve. (Photo by Sp4 Rick Miller)

people who participated in the different events really impressed me."

"There were a few instances of people losing their tempers and bad sportsmanship, but basically that was all," Younger commented.

Command support was also a key factor, according to the participants.

"Our flight commander made it quite clear that he would support anyone who signed up, male or female," AIC Dawn Reynolds said. "I think the Olympics were good for Kunia, because everybody participated in the competition." Reynolds won silver medals in racquet ball and basketball hot-shot competition, as well as a gold in the free throw.

"It's nice to be able to compete against a lot of other athletes and be recognized for your efforts," Sp5 Reginald McKinney of ITIC-PAC commented, adding the Los Angeles Olympics held this summer inspired him to enter the field station version.

"I wanted to compete in the Olympics, and I've always been pretty good at basketball," he said during the events. "I have had trophies before, but never a medal." McKinney's dream came true as he later won two gold medals in the basketball hot-shot and free throw competition.

The most popular sport was volleyball, followed closely by the tug of war, canoe races, and track and field, according to Younger. The most popular sport for women was weightlifting, and the civilians favored horseshoes and volleyball, he added.



More team sports will mark next year's Olympics, Rittmeister said.

"Some of the events will change. We will add some and delete some of the events. We had a lot of people coming up to us and giving us suggestions on how to improve things for next year," he added.

"I think more people will step forward next year and want to work with it now that the first competition is over," Younger said. "It was worth the time everyone put into it. It helped the individuals who participated to have an outlet to show their skills in their particular sports, and it helped them represent their service, whether it was Army, Air Force, or Navy.

"Along with that, they got to meet people from other services they would not normally meet at work, and that might have sparked some friendships there," he said. "The Olympics helped the morale of the field station."

One Alpha Company soldier agrees.

"The list of names of people who signed up reflects great participation from the different branches," Sp5 Marvin Luciano said. "It was a chance to get to know people and bring everyone together."

The following information is a list of the winners in order of their finishing, from gold, silver to bronze:

Tug of War: Army ITIC-PAC; Army A Co.; Army CCC (civilians, command group, contractors).

Volleyball: Navy; Army CCC, team three; Army ITIC-PAC, team 1.

Canoe race: Army, A Co.

gold and silver medals; Army, ITIC-PAC.

Darts: Dennis Culbertson and Bill Pitzer, Navy; James Thigpen and Phil Berkemeir, Army, HHC; James Frisbie and Ralph English, Army, A Co.

440-yard dash: Stoney Speller, Air Force; David Corey, Air Force; Ramon Fewell, Army A Co.

Men's Cycling: Christopher Peterson, Army HHC; Alan Meade, Army B Co.; Michael Walker, Air Force.

Women's cycling: Jacqueline Mann, Army A Co.

Horseshoes: Don Schultz, Bernie Cobb, CCC; James Roberts, Derward Parker, ITIC-PAC; Richard Jameson, John Kuckler, Army B Co.

Women's racquet ball: Patricia Oettinger, Air Force; Dawn Reynolds, Air Force; Melody Applegate, Army HHC.

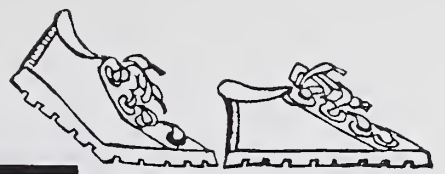
Men's racquet ball: Dennis Culbertson, Navy; Andrew Carr, Army HHC,



Plate umpire Billy Ray Smith watches a foul tip during the softball tournament. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



ITIC-PAC rounds the bend in the field station pond in the canoe competition. The team took third place. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



John L. Carter, Jr., CCC.

Men's tennis: Terry Wilson, Air Force; John Younger, Army B Co.; Robert Bowe, CCC.

Women's tennis: Jade Wojtowicz, CCC; Sarah Amoros, Army B Co.; Gail Reuhl, Army HHC.

Tennis doubles: Terry Wilson, Mark McDowell, Air Force; Daniel Driscoll, Steve Larson, Army A Co.

Golf, Championship Flight: Dennis Saylor, Army ITIC-PAC; Charles Sanchez, Army HHC; Steve Fry, Navy.

Golf, A Flight: Page Lewis, Navy; James Kelly, Air Force; John Younger, Army B Co.

Golf, B Flight: Joseph Lowdermilk, Army B Co.; Richard Brumm, Air Force; Steven Roeske, Air Force.

Golf, C Flight: William Goble, Air Force; James Thigpen, Army HHC; James Beck, CCC.

Women's basketball, hot-shot: Melody Applegate, Army HHC; Dawn Reynolds, Air Force.

Men's basketball, hot-shot: Reginald McKinney, Army ITIC-PAC; C.J. Johnson, Navy; John Younger, Army, B Co.

Women's basketball, free throw: Dawn Reynolds, Air Force; Melody Applegate, Army HHC.

Men's basketball, free throw: Reginald McKinney, Army ITIC-PAC; Delbert Means, Army HHC; Claude Boddie, Air Force.

Men's 10K run: Donald Richer, Air Force; Donald Danner, Army, B Co.; Jack Wilson, CCC.

Women's 10K run: Loretta Hudson, Army B Co.; Lisa Martin, Army B Co.; Elaine Little, Army A Co.



The term "putting a little English on the ball" takes on new meaning as Ralph English of Alpha Company tees off. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)

High jump: Dennis Barr, Air Force; Ramon Fewell, Army HHC; Stoney Speller, Army A Co.



Soldiers from B Trick battle in the tug-of-war competition. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



Shot put: John Carter, CCC; Jayson Roberts, Army HHC; Joe Odom, Army HHC.

Men's 100-yard dash: Michael Thomas, Air Force; Dwayne Taylor, Air Force; C.J. Johnson, Navy.

Women's 100-yard dash: Loretta Hudson, Army, B Co.; Joyce Nelson, Air Force; Irene Summer, Army ITIC-PAC.

Women's 5K run: Loretta Hudson, Army B Co.; Elaine Little, Army A Co.; Jade Wojtowicz, CCC.

Men's 5K run: Donald Danner, Army B Co.; Manuel Ochoa, Air Force; Kevin Jenn, Army A Co.

Mile relay: Michael Thomas, Dwayne Taylor, Annette Steele, Stoney Speller, Air Force, tied for the gold medal with the Army A Co. team of Ronald Bass, David Burda, Jose Rivera, and Claire Littlefield; Reed Kimball, Lucinda Schultz, Felecia Arrington, Edward Connelly, Army ITIC-PAC; John Younger, Eddie McPeak, Gloria Daniel, Tracy Olinger, Army B Co.

Men's weightlifting, 148 pound class: Edward Richards, Air Force; Pedro Guiterrez, Army ITIC-PAC, Edwin Feliciano, Army B Co.

Men's weightlifting, 165 pound class: Robert Perrault, Air Force; Upton Hodge, Army HHC.

Men's weightlifting, 181 pound class: Gerald Hughes, Air Force; Jesse James, Army A Co.; Timothy McLean, Army HHC.

Men's weightlifting, 198 pound class: Shannon Mitchell, Army A Co.; Jayson Roberts, Army HHC.

Men's weightlifting, 220 pound class: John Davis, Army

A Co.; John Carter, CCC; Steven Pavlovic, CCC.

Women's weightlifting, 130 pound class: Joyce Core, Army A Co.

Women's weightlifting, 140 pound class: Mardell Murril, Navy; Claire Littlefield, Army A Co.

Women's weightlifting, 145 pound class: Linda King, Army A Co.; Kathy Pack, Army A Co.

Men's swimming, 50 meter free style: Garret Joyce, Air Force; Jeff Shaver, Army HHC; David Corey, Air Force.

Women's swimming, 50 meter free style: Lynda Woodard, Army ITIC-PAC; Patricia Oettinger, Air Force; Jacqueline Mann, Army A Co.

Men's swimming, 50 meter back stroke: Garret Joyce, Air Force; Jeff Shaver, Army HHC; David Newell, Army ITIC-PAC.

Women's swimming, 50 meter backstroke: Lynda Woodard, Army ITIC-PAC; Patricia Oettinger, Air Force;

Jacqueline Mann, Army A Co. Pentathlon: Ramon Fewell, Army A Co.; Roy Phillips, Army HHC; Donald Danner, Army B Co.

Tinman: Christopher Peterson, Army HHC; Jim French, Army HHC; Richard Gore, Air Force.

Long jump: Michael Thomas, Air Force; Stoney Speller, Air Force; Claiborne Johnson, Army HHC.

Men's 220-yard dash: Stoney Speller, Air Force; Michael Thomas, Air Force; Dwayne Taylor, Air Force.

Women's 220-yard dash: Linda King, Army A Co.; Loretta Hudson, Army B Co.; Devera Rivera, Army A Co.

Women's 880-yard dash: Loretta Hudson, Army B Co.

Men's 880-yard dash: Stoney Speller, Air Force; Richard Gore, Air Force; Eddie McPeak, Army B Co.

In the 440 relay team contest, the Air Force took the gold and bronze, with the Navy team taking third.



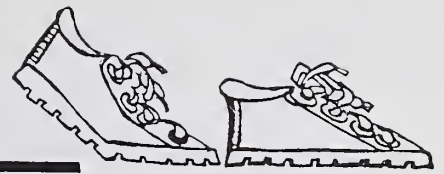
Dennis Barr of Headquarters Company goes airborne in triumphant pursuit of a gold medal in the high jump event. (Photo by Sp4 Robert Wells)



Johnny Mercer disentangles the ball from the net while William Daniels disentangles himself during the volleyball competition. John Hale stands ready in the background.



Stoney Speller won the 440-yard relay in FS Kunia's version of the Olympics held recently in Hawaii. The Air Force servicemember won six gold medals.



Sp4 John Dimery of the Athletics and Recreation Branch clocks in the 440-yard finalists. Dimery is one of the coordinators of the Olympics held at FS Kunia.



There are many ways to get from third base to homeplate. Here is an example of one of those methods, demonstrated by Field Station Kunia personnel.

(All photos on this page are by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)



Kunia's Olympics

Throwing a shoe to win

Two field station civilians polished off all military and civilian competition in the horseshoe event on their way to a gold medal.

Bernie Cobb and Donald Schultz went undefeated in Olympic play, winning the first two games of every match in the best two out of three games. This was the first time the pair had competed together.

"We were fortunate enough to throw more ringers than the other guys, that's all," Schultz said. "Our toughest competition came from Robert Elzy and Johnny Mercer. They really gave us a run for the money."

Cobb and Schultz began pitching horseshoes on the mainland. Cobb's career began in his hometown of Leesburg, Va. and Schultz's expertise was born in Knox, Indiana. Schultz is also a member of the Lio Kamaa Onana Club in Nanakuli, a local horseshoe club.

The duo entered the Olympics because "we just wanted to go out and play horseshoes. Professional horseshoe competition involves a great deal of

strategy," said Schultz.

"If you throw a double ringer to start off with, that will psyche out the opponent right away," he said. "It puts the pressure on them. Back home where I come from it's called 'getting first iron.'"

"It's a concentration game, and it takes a lot of practice to learn how to throw the shoe so the shoe will open properly," Cobb added. "The main objec-

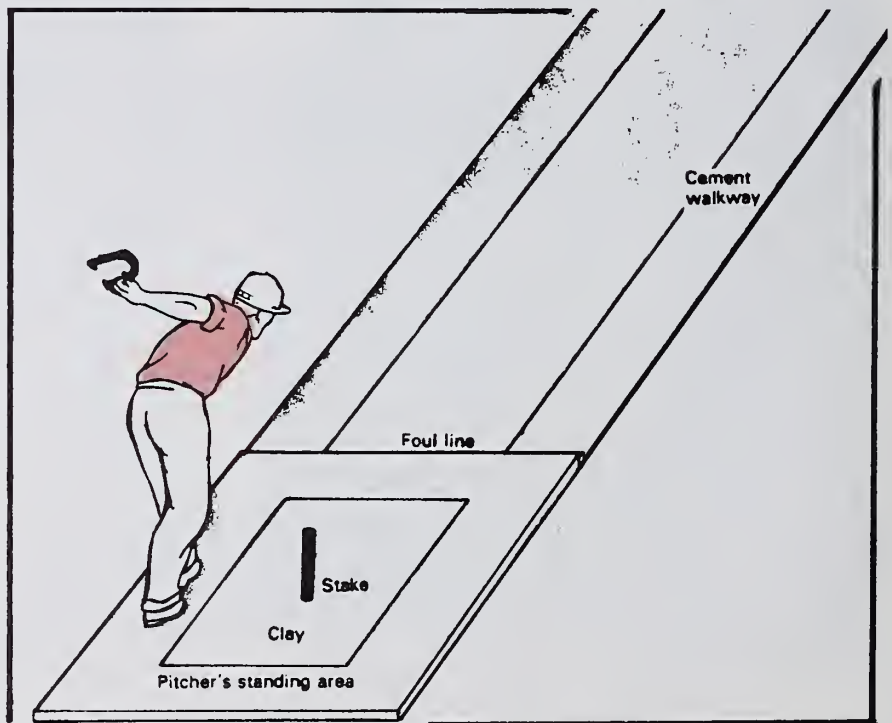
tive is to get the shoe open. Of course, the second most critical thing is getting the shoe around the stake."

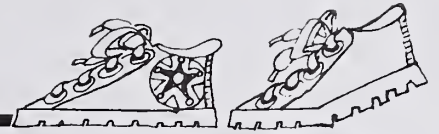
Cobb throws a "flip flop" horseshoe, while Schultz delivers a "three quarter turn." Another type of horseshoe delivery is called the "spinner."

In the recent competition, the team's shortest match lasted ten minutes, with a thirty minute battle marking their longest match. Competition improved toward the end of play, they added.

"We were off and on," Schultz added. "One day I would throw a double ringer to win the game, and in the next game I couldn't do anything right."

Taking the silver medal were James Roberts and Derward Parker of ITIC-PAC and Richard Jameson and John Kuckler of Bravo Company took the bronze medal.





Kunia's swinger

by Capt. Dennis Saylor

The golf competition during the Kunia Olympics was a very well run tournament and exemplified the sportsmanship, camaraderie, and competition that was the purpose of the Kunia Olympics.

I participated in order to represent my unit, ITIC-PAC, and to see how I would stand, skill-wise, against the other participants. I started playing golf when I was ten years old, and from the age of 13 through high school I played golf almost every day. I also worked at the golf course and developed a close relationship with the golf pro who provided my only formal instruction as well as encouragement.

By the time I graduated from high school, I had developed into a pretty good player and routinely scored in the 70s. For the next several years during college, and my first years in the Army, I played much less and digressed to a mid-80s player. In the last four or five years I have played more often and have improved my game back to the 70s and possess a five handicap. So I was eager to see how I stacked up against the competition.

For the most part the participants in my flight had played together many times and everyone had a very competitive attitude. Generally, golf is said to be a sport where the competition is between the player and the course, but for this tournament everyone was trying to beat everyone else. Field Station Kunia has an

abundance of good golfers. There are probably close to ten players who will routinely score below 80. This provides for some good internal competition. Most of these people play together regularly and have developed a degree of competitiveness as well as camaraderie. This will sometimes cause one to play the other competitor, rather than playing the golf course and trying to beat "par." The other players' scores become the target.

I had an advantage in this regard since I was unable to play my first round of a two-round competition at the same time everyone else did because of duty commitments. I played my first round when the other competitors were playing their second round. In order to lessen the pressure I took an approach to "play the best I could." Depending on my score and the scores the others had, I would know what score I needed for the second round to win. When I played my second round, however, I knew what score I had to shoot to win and that increased the pressure I felt.

Two incidents stand out in the Kunia Olympics that exemplify the sportsmanship displayed by my opponents. Twice I was allowed relief under the rules of golf that ultimately saved me three strokes. My winning margin was two. At no time did my opponents question the interpretation or application of the rules. We all



Capt. Dennis Saylor finishes his swing in the Olympic competition. (Photo by SSgt. Vicki Ohmacht)

agreed that the proper actions were taken. This typifies the intent of athletic competition—competition by the rules, sportsmanship, and genuine camaraderie.

All these factors were evident in the Kunia Olympics. Only when one ingredient outweighed the other did we witness minor problems and disagreements during a particular competition. It is nice to be recognized as being proficient in a sport. I will compete next year simply because I thought it was fun. But it also helped to develop a feeling of teamwork as a whole within Field Station Kunia.

Editor's note: Capt. Saylor won a gold medal in the championship flight of the 1984 Kunia Olympics.



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